

2016 ANNUAL REPORT



Executive Team

Sue Rooney, Executive Director
Jean Edelhertz, Finance Officer
Dwight Hutchinson, Communications Officer
Mary Power, Grants Officer
Joan Walters, Stewardship Officer

PHILOSOPHY



Giving is good.

Giving together
is better!

The Act of Giving process

Each year, Act of Giving members pick a theme to focus our grants on. For 2016, the theme was "Fostering Compassion."

Members research potential grantees and propose grants to the group. Members then vote to decide which organizations will receive grants and how much funding to award.

We celebrate! Each summer we have an event to recognize the grantee organizations and celebrate their achievements. It's one of the highlights of the year for members and grantees, and everyone is invited to join in the festivities.

MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Fostering Compassion.

In what may have been the most challenging and thought provoking year in our country's modern history, with its social upheavals and political theatrics and plot twists, 2016 arrived, delivering relentless waves of questions to ponder and values to defend. These were the waves of a stormy sea, between which grew a call for compassion. And in this corner (!) the call was met through the collective focus of Act of Giving Foundation members on that very thing: compassion.

Throughout the 2016 grant cycle, we learned that a stormy social environment defines exactly why we exist. Our world has felt a bit like a tempest fueled by misalignment and disarray, and by seeking and supporting nonprofits focused on "Fostering Compassion" each one of us experienced a grounding center upon which to rest.

I am reminded of the poetic reflections of David Whyte, "The only choice we have as we mature is how we inhabit our vulnerability, how we become larger and more courageous and more compassionate through our intimacy with disappearance." Read on to learn more about those whose compassion calms the storm for hundreds of people every day.

Sue Rooney, Executive Director

2016 GRANTEES



Act of Giving presented the Post-Prison Education Program with a \$10,000 Grant! PEPP rebuilds lives, reunites families, saves taxpayers huge amounts of money, and makes our communities safer. Great work made possible by a village of supporters.

Proposed by Act of Giving member Dwight Hutchinson

Yoga Behind Bars received a \$5,000 award. The great people at YBB provide yoga and meditation classes to incarcerated men, women and youth enabling rehabilitation, growth and healing. With their grant, Yoga Behind Bars demonstrates the Big Love Pose.

Proposed by Act of Giving member Jean Edelhertz



An award of \$10,000 was made to Facing Homelessness! Pictured are the homeless, and Sarah Steilen (FH), Haley Rooney-Wilcox (AoG) and Rex Hohlbein (FH). Rex and Sarah's images humanize the homeless and empower our compassion, empathy and kindness. We're better because of the work they do.

*Proposed by Act of Giving members
Haley Rooney-Wilcox and Sue Rooney*

Jhamtse Gatsal (Tibetan for "Garden of Love and Compassion") received a \$10,000 grant. A community in the foothills of the Himalayas that serves about 90 children, abandoned, neglected or simply from families too impoverished to care for them, have been taken in. With active love and compassion, the staff raise and school them, enabling emotional well-being, happiness and resilience.

Proposed by Act of Giving member Eileen Putter



With a \$5,000 grant, the Ballard Food Bank tackles a complex issue (hunger) effectively by respecting human dignity, providing food to people who need it, seeking to understand and address needs beyond food, and working to promote understanding and compassion with others. Actions to hopefully eliminate the need for food banks one day.

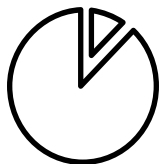
Proposed by Act of Giving member Kathleen Owens

We are an all-volunteer, proactive, giving community built on shared values and the desire to drive positive change.

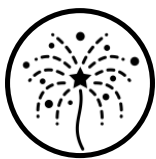
We are smarter and stronger together.



since 2003, Act of Giving has granted
over \$425,000 to non-profits



we spend less than
less than 10% of our funds on expenses and overhead



In 2016, Act of Giving awarded \$40,320 in grants, making this
our largest grantmaking year in the past decade!



OUR PLANS

In 2017, Act of Giving members picked "Serving Veterans" as the theme for the year. We're looking forward to another round of successful grants and giving. And you can join, too! We are always open to new members and invite you to join us at any of our events.

2016 Act of Giving Members

Andrea and Brian Mackin
Beth Plummer
Cara Wilson
Chris Peters
Dwight and Lisa Hutchinson
Eileen and Howard Putter
Helena and Doug Haas
Janet Salm
Jean Edelhertz
Joan and Chris Walters
Kathleen and Patrick Owens
Katie Toft
Kendra Morgan
Klein James Seattle Auction Gallery
Leah Boyan

Mary Power
Matt Crosby and Sharon Chin
Melanie Estrada
Michael and Cara Van Sant
Michelle Chamberlain
Rob and Michelle Banga
Ross Kilburn
Sarah Hill
Scott Foster
Stephanie and Patrick Gerding
Steve Shields
Sue Rooney
Tim Keller
Tom and Stephanie Shields



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